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Soviet Technical Gains Stressed by CIA Official

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By the Associated Press

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A Central Intelligence Agency officer said here that abstracts of papers by American natural scientists are sometimes published in the Soviet Union before they appear in United States natural scientific journals.

Dr. Herbert Scoville, Jr., assistant director of the CIA, said the Soviet abstracting service, operated as "a state matter," prints sufficient natural scientific

matter from all sources to compare in size with 35 volumes of the Encyclopedia Britannica each year.

Dr. Scoville said in an address prepared for the National Electronics Conference that Soviet high-school students receive more natural scientific training than do those of the United States.

In 1955, he said, 60 per cent of all Soviet college graduates had specialized in scientific-technical fields, as compared with about 25 per cent in the United States.

"In engineering alone," he said, "the Soviet Union graduated twice as many as the United States."

He forecast that in 1960 the Soviet Union would graduate 155,000 natural science students, compared with 126,000 in the United States, and in the physical sciences and engineering, 90,000 compared with 65,000.

"If these trends continue," Dr. Scoville said, "it is apparent that soon the Soviets will have a decided advantage in numbers of scientific-technical personnel."

He said that narrow specialization in Soviet technical education "tends to create a narrowness of outlook and may well reduce the Soviet scientist's chances of producing original scientific research."

In areas relating directly to the build-up of national power and military strength, Dr. Scoville said, the Soviets have made "remarkable progress and excel in some specialized areas."

He said they have achieved "significant advances" in nuclear research, and high competence in mathematics and aeronautics. He said "they are developing a strong competitive position in the design of modern long-range airplanes."